STUART LAKE MARINE, TREMBLEUR LAKE AND TAKLA LAKE MARINE PROVINCIAL PARKS

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

March 2003

Approved by:

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Date: March 3/03

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Date: Mar 4 2003

Stuart Lake Marine Park / Trembleur Lake Park / Takla Lake Marine Park
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Stuart Lake Marine, Trembleur Lake and Takla Lake Marine parks comprise over 330 km of lake and connecting rivers in north central British Columbia. The Stuart/Trembleur/Takla lakes system is of provincial significance for boating and associated activities. These long narrow lakes are among the region's most significant recreation features and tourist attractions. The lakes offer great sports fishing opportunities and are popular with local and regional residents. The Stuart/Trembleur/Takla boating system includes three sites on Stuart Lake, one site on Trembleur Lake, and three sites on Takla Lake. These sites contribute significantly to the role of the Stuart/Trembleur/Takla lakes system as a backcountry boating destination area.

Stuart Lake is the site of the largest community in the area, Fort St. James (population 2,209), and is road or trail accessible at many locations. Trembleur Lake, the middle lake, offers an irregular scenic shoreline and wilderness setting, as the lake is not road accessible. Takla Lake, the most northerly of the three, is the fifth largest lake in British Columbia, and has limited road access. Takla Lake is also accessible via Middle River, which is easily navigable and has been proclaimed a BC Heritage River.

There are few developed facilities, and levels of use are low, supporting the remote, isolated experience that many users treasure. Several commercial recreation operations attract regional to international tourist use.

Along the entire lake system, developed recreation facilities are available at two provincial parks (Paarens Beach and Sowchea Bay), two Forest Recreation Sites, and six commercial recreation establishments. There are summer cottages on all lakes.

Stuart, Trembleur and Takla lakes have important conservation values including provincially important spawning and rearing habitat for salmon, habitat for white sturgeon, high wildlife values, listed plant communities and associations. The 7 sites of the Stuart/Trembleur/Takla lakes system range in size from 23 ha to 349 ha. Although they are too small to contribute towards ecosystem representation, they contain locally significant special features.

There is high archaeological potential along the shores of all three lakes.

Primary Role
The primary role of these three parks along the provincially significant Stuart/Trembleur/Takla Lake system is to support boating and fishing use in a remote setting. The sites offer potential moorage, camping, and day use opportunities.

Secondary Role
The secondary role is to protect locally significant special natural features, such as prominent rock bluffs, quality beaches, islands, protected bays, deciduous forest stands, cultural features, and rock art, along this provincially significant lake system.

Tertiary Role

The tertiary role of the three parks is to protect cultural values. The Stuart/Trembleur/Takla Lake System is rich in cultural history. Numerous archaeological sites and a historic route provide opportunities for cultural heritage appreciation.

Known Management Issues	Response
Public safety in a remote backcountry environment	• Ensure public information is available that includes safety messaging specific to the Stuart/Trembleur/Takla Lakes system (e.g. avoiding bear/human conflicts; safe boating; remote wilderness travel and ethics)

Zoning

All sites in the Stuart/Trembleur/Takla boating system will be zoned Natural Environment with the objective to protect scenic values and to provide for recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

CONSERVATION

Representation
- ecosection
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

Minor representation of Babine Upland (BAU)
Minor representation of SBSdw3

Special Feature — X Locally significant special natural features such as prominent rock bluffs

Rare/Endangered Values

Scientific/Research Opportunities

RECREATION

Representation:
- backcountry — X Several sites which contribute towards the role of the lake system as a backcountry boating and angling destination
- destination
- travel corridor
- local recreation — X Takla Lake Marine Park as a priority for future recreational development, and will be the primary focus for boat launching and public recreational use on Takla Lake.

Special Opportunities — X Provincially significant lake system

Education/Interpretation Opportunities — X First Nations sites and history

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

Special Feature — X Numerous archaeological sites and a historic route

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

Relationship to Other PAs — X The Stuart/Trembleur/Takla boating system of small protected areas complements other parks and recreation facilities, and provides lake access and a series of protected anchorages near beaches or other scenic areas. Two large provincial parks (Rubyrock Lake and Mount Blanchet) are also found on this lake system. While these parks are undeveloped, they offer wilderness recreation

opportunities.

Co-operative Management Arrangements		
Partnerships		
Vulnerability	X	The Conservation Risk Assessment Process identified 2 risk factors (the shape and the size of the park) for Stuart Lake Marine and rated them as low significance. Three stressors/threats were identified for Stuart Lake Marine: Housing was rated as moderately significant; and hunting which was rated as low significance. The Conservation Risk Assessment Process identified 2 risk factors (the shape and the size of the park) for Trembleur Lake and rated them as moderately significant. No stressors/threats were identified for Trembleur Lake. The Conservation Risk Assessment Process identified 2 risk factors (the shape and the size of the park) for Takla Lake Marine and rated them as moderately significant. Two stressors/threats were identified for Takla Lake Marine: Roadways and railways which were both rated as low significance.
Relationship to Other Strategies	X	Fort St. James LRMP

Area: Stuart Lake Marine: 227 hectares
(Jus K'etl'o Bay Site: 70 ha, North Arm Site: 23 ha, Two Islands Site: 134 ha)
Takla Lake Marine: 550 hectares
(Sandy Point Site: 160 ha, Takla West Site: 41 ha, White Bluff Site: 349 ha)
Trembleur Lake: 57 hectares

Date of establishment:

Stuart Lake Marine:	April 11, 2001
Takla Lake Marine:	June 14, 1993 (Sandy Point Site) January 25, 2001 (Takla West and White Bluff Sites)
Trembleur Lake:	January 25, 2001

Zoning Map - Takla Lake Marine Park - Overview

Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 4
km

Produced in Apr 2003 for
Ministry of Water, Land and Air
Protection by MSRM, Decision
Support Services

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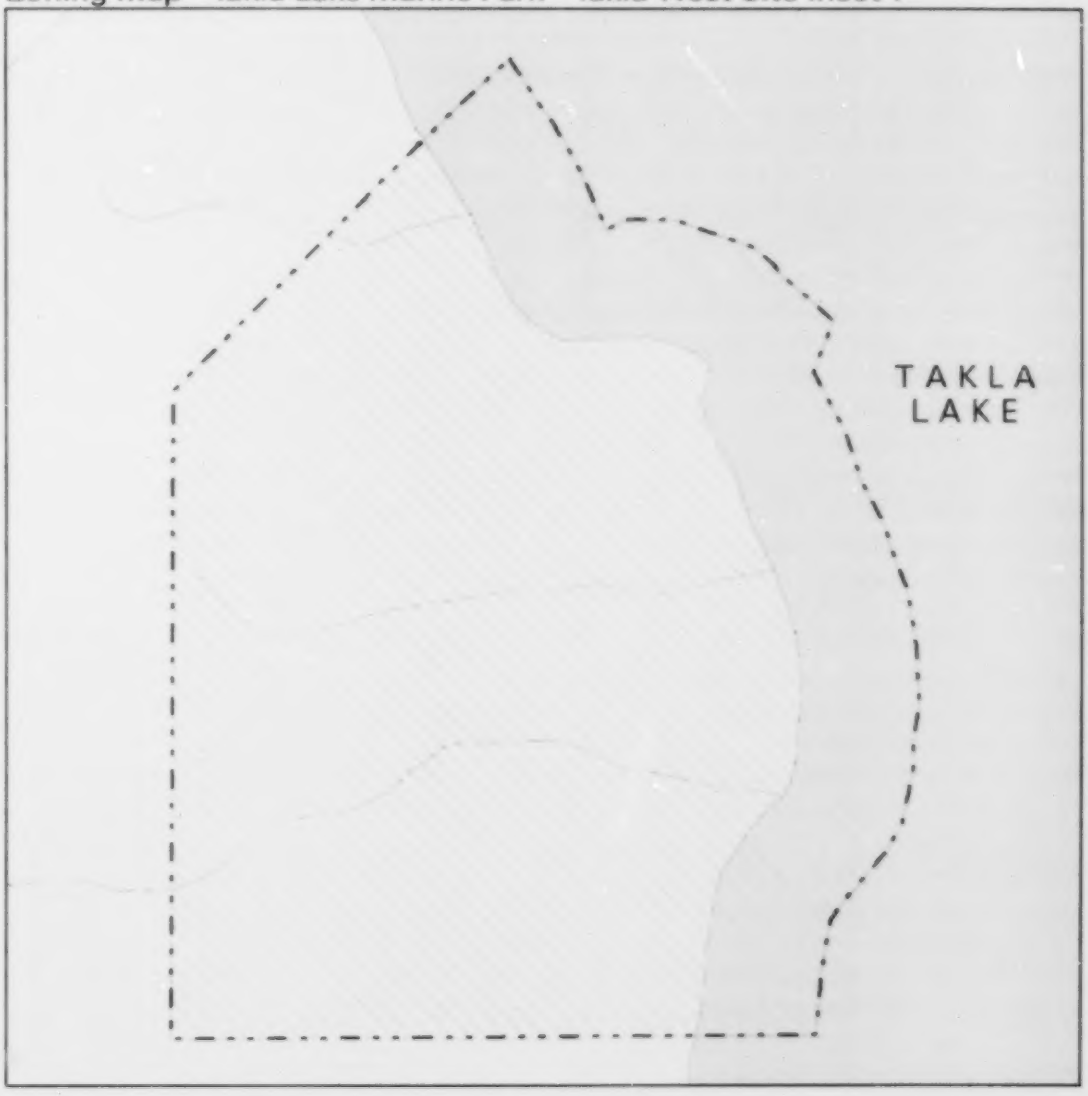
only and should not be used for
legal purposes.

Zoning Map - Takla Lake Marine Park - Takla West Site Inset 1



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 100

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Zoning Map - Takla Lake Marine Park - White Bluff Site Inset 2

Projection: Albers Equal Area
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 500
m

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Zoning Map - Takla Lake Marine Park - Sandy Point Site Inset 3

Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 500
m

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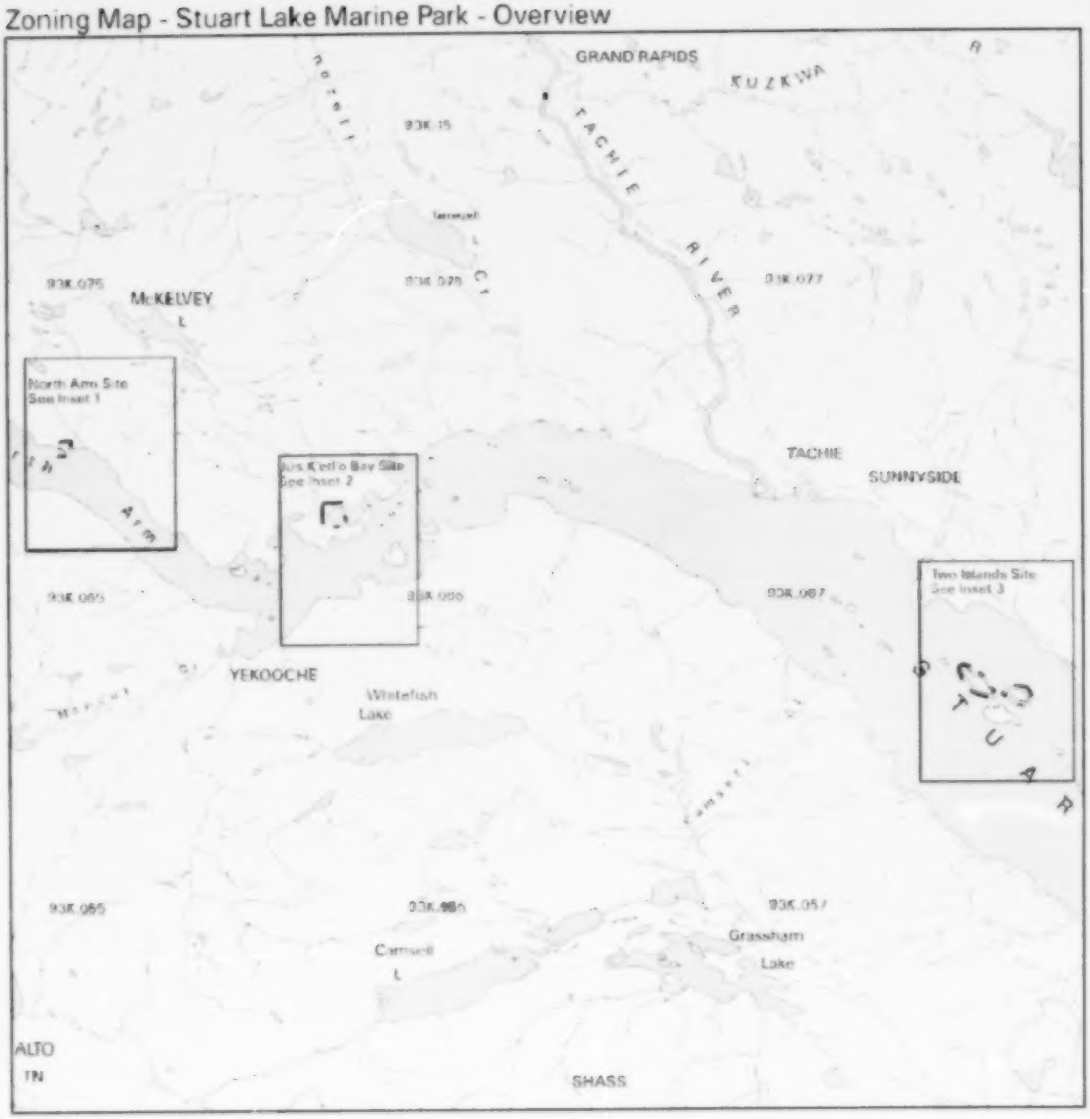
Zoning Map - Stuart Lake Marine Park - Overview



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

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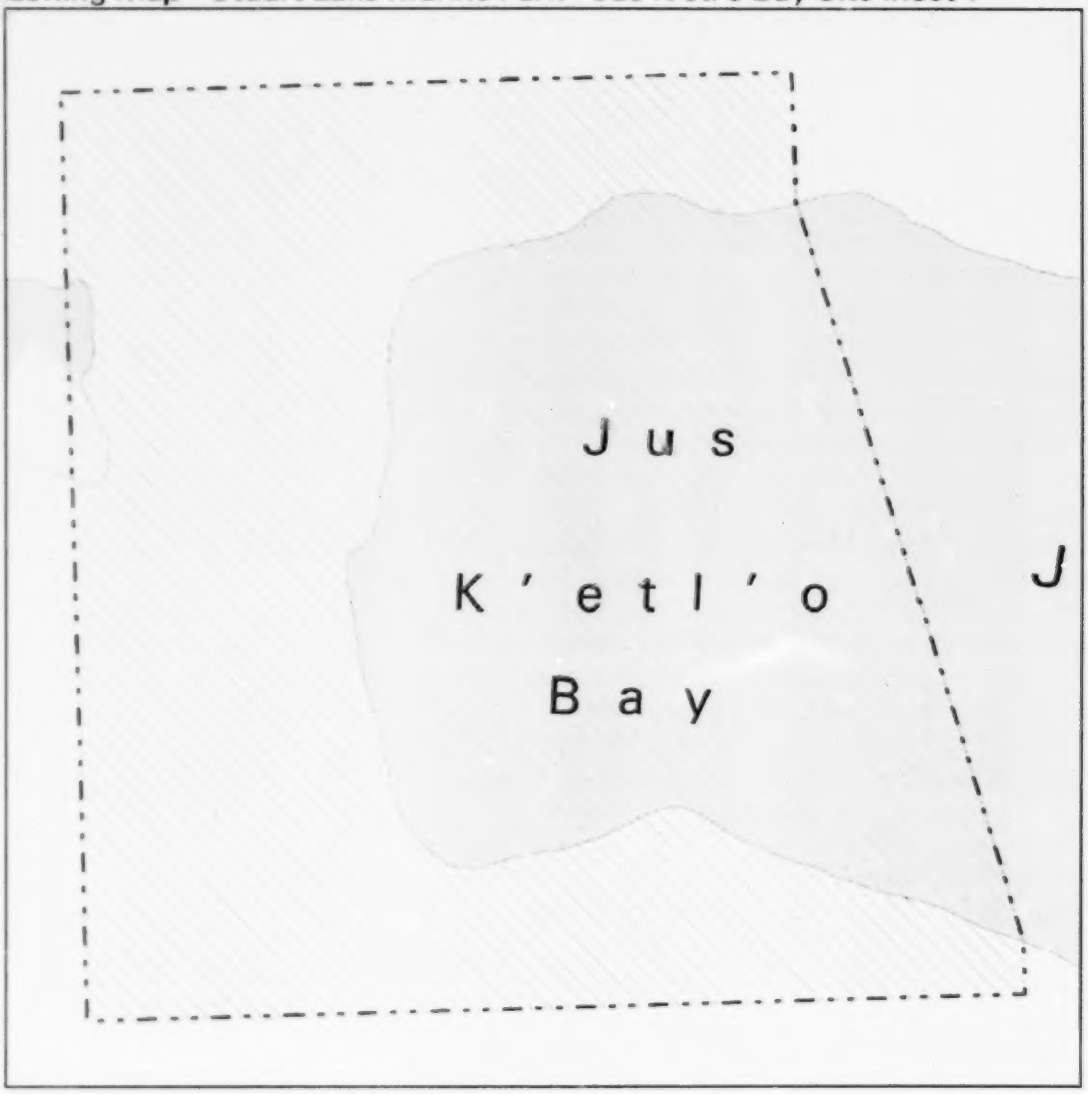
Zoning Map - Stuart Lake Marine Park - Jus K'etl'o Bay Site Inset 1



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 100
m

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Zoning Map - Stuart Lake Marine Park - North Arm Site Inset 2

Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 100
m

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Zoning Map - Stuart Lake Marine Park - Two Islands Site Inset 3

Projection: Albers Equal Area
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 500
m

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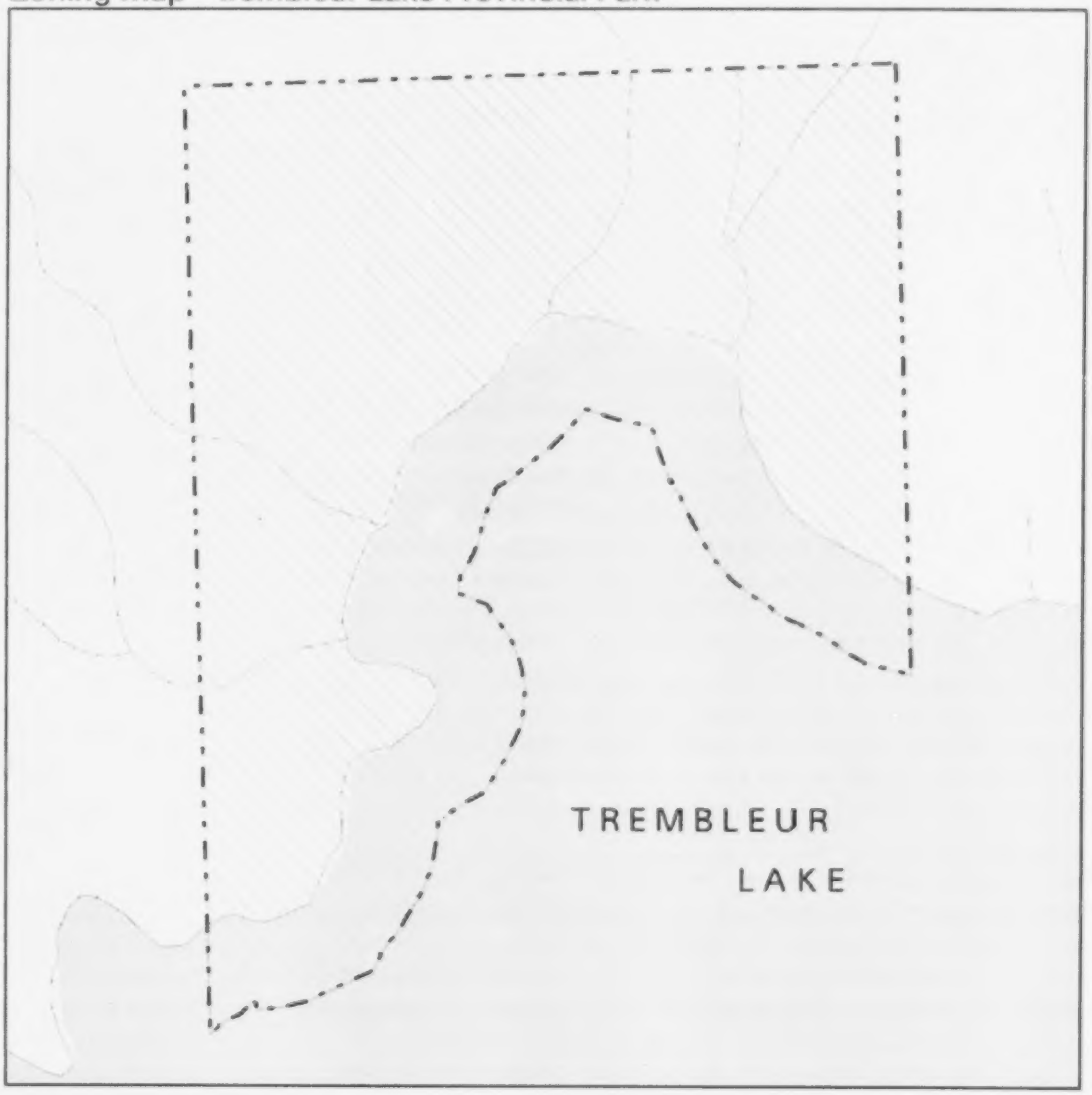
Zoning Map - Trembleur Lake Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 300
m

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